(xxiii) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff and road users.

(xxiv) Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/removal from service is being imposed on officials causing serious accidents.

(xxv) Majority of four wheeler wagons (CRT wagons) with vacuum brake system have been phased out.

(xxvi) All new coaches are being fitted with Bogie Mounted Brake System. In addition, some of the existing coaches having adequate residual life are also being retrofitted with this system.

(xxvii) To improve crash worthiness of coaches, as an immediate measure, coach interiors are being re-designed with improved fittings and features, which would not cause injury. Simultaneously, the coach body will be re-designed to absorb more impact so as to keep passenger carrying areas intact.

(xxviii) New wagons being inducted into the system are equipped with more reliable casnub Bogies. Bogie Mounted Brake System has also been developed and is under trail. The use of Composition Brake Blocks on wagons is being progressively increased.

(xxix) All the Production Units, majority of repair workshops and large number of Sheds/Depots have achieved ISO 9002 certification for their Quality Maintenance System.

Trade in endangered bird species

*92. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that despite the laws and rules the bird catchers in India are still trading in many endangered birds and poaching the endangered animals;

(b) if so, the details of such activities detected during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government, so far, to stop such illegal practices?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Trade in rare and endangered species of birds is prohibited. However, incidences of illegal trade of birds are detected from time to time and are dealt with as per the provision of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(b) The enforcement of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 is mainly done by the State Governments. The statistics about seizure made by the State Governments officials are not complied and collated by the Central Government. However, the details of seizures made by the Regional Dy. Directors, Wild Life Preservation, Ministry of Environment and Forests, for the last three years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The steps taken by Government to stop illegal bird trade are as follows:

(1) *Steps taken at the State Level:*

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(iii) State Wildlife Authorities carry out regular checking of the stocks of dealers in birds.

(2) *Steps taken at National Lavel:*

(i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

(ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

(iii) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

(3) *Steps taken at International level:*

(i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.

Statement

Details of seizure of birds during the last three years as reported by Wild Life Regional Offices of Ministry of Environment and Forests at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai

Sl. No.	Species	1999	2000	2001
1.	Large Indian parakeet	5	—	—
2.	Rose ringed parakeet	25	73	3
3.	Alexandrine parakeet	—	300	35
4.	Red vented bulbul	—	—	1
5.	Blossom headed parakeet	4	17	—
6.	Red breasted parakeet	—	1	—
7.	Common myna	—	1	—
8.	Hill Myna	—	350	—
9.	Pheasant	—	—	6
10.	Red Munia	—	—	1200
11.	Birds of prey (legs)	3	—	—
12.	Grey jungle fowl feathers	0.89 kgs	—	—
13.	Assorted Munia	125	—	—
14.	Green finch and black headed munia	—	8300	—
15.	Alexandrine parakeet, Rose ringed parakeet, Blossom headed parakeet, Black headed Munia, White Breasted Munia, Finches, Baya birds and Hill Myna	—	—	1000